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prominent figures in state or national politics. The chief developments in party machinery discussed in this book are still in the experimental stage and the success of these measures means much to the people of the state. Probably the most valuable chapters are those on direct nominations and primary legislation. As Dr. Millspaugh says, "Michigan has now had direct nominations for fifteen years, a period of experimentation too short for the establishment of confident conclusions." He points out in a clear and interesting manner the effect of the direct nominations in operation and shows that very complicated problems have arisen. Considerable space is devoted to a discussion of party committees and conventions and to campaign finance.

It is hoped that someone with Dr. Millspaugh's ability will undertake to write a history of political parties in Michigan during the period covered by this thesis. Such a study would indeed be a valuable contribution to the historical literature of the state.

FLOYD B. STREETER.

THE PETITION OF RIGHT, by Frances Helen Relf, Ph.D. (The University of Minnesota Studies in the Social Sciences, Number 8.)

This doctoral dissertation is an acute and penetrating study of a most important subject. By a careful examination of the judicial powers of Parliament in the seventeenth century and with the aid of manuscript sources which have been brought to light since the late Samuel Rawson Gardiner wrote his monumental HISTORY OF ENGLAND, 1603-1642, Dr. Relf has been able to revise and amplify the findings on THE PETITION OF RIGHT of this acknowledged master of the period. Two misprints, only, have been noticed (Henningham for Heveningham, p. 6, and 29 for 39 Magna Carta, p. 20). In connection with the writs for the enlargement of freemen, that of MAIN-PRIZE might at least have been mentioned, while a knowledge of Professor C. H. McIlwain's "Due Process of Law in Magna Carta", COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW, January, 1914, would have ensured a fuller discussion of that important phase of the subject. Possibly, too, the author's argument is a bit finely drawn in places; but these are only minor criticisms in a convincing reinterpretation, of a type of research gratefully to be welcomed.

ARTHUR LYON CROSS.

CASES ON THE LAW OF PRIVATE CORPORATIONS, selected and supplemented with notes. By Daniel Frederick Burnett, M.S. J.D., Professor of Law, New York University. Little Brown and Company, Boston: 1917; pp. xxix, 828.

This is an excellently well selected and arranged collection of corporation cases within the compass of a single volume of text, covering 797 pages. It will compare favorably with those of Professors Warren (1040 pp.), Richards (858 pp.), and Canfield and Wormser (966 pp.). Many of the leading cases common to all collections are retained, but 73, out of the 172 cases given, have been decided in the last twenty years. In many instances statements of facts have been rewritten with care to bring out the specific mat-

ter for which the cases are given. The cases have been trimmed down with discretion. The notes, not numerous, nor extended generally, are designed "to assist the student in preparation for class room discussion", and "in some instances to bridge over and tie into the principal cases those situations", beyond the compass of a single volume, and are suited to this purpose.

The arrangement is in six books, and twenty chapters. Book I: The Nature of a Corporation, with chapters on the corporation viewed as a "sanctioned entity"; a "person"; a "collection of individuals"; and "as a franchise". Book II: The Charter: its acquisition *de jure*; *de facto*; as a measure of corporate powers; as a contract between stockholders; as a contract between the state and the corporation. Book III: Powers: particular; *ultra vires*, contracts, property, torts, crimes. Book IV: Internal Mechanism: organization, promotion, subscription, capital stock; by-laws; directors and officers; share-holders, meetings, inspection of books, dividends, using new stock, transfer of shares, preferred stock, actions of stockholders, voting trusts. Book V: Rights of creditors: against the corporation; against directors; against stockholders. Book VI: Dissolution and reorganization: dissolution, causes, means, and effect; reorganization, consolidation and merger. A good index, tables of contents, of cases reported and cited, accompany the text so that all material is readily available.

HORACE L. WILGUS.

HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF PRIVATE CORPORATIONS. By William L. Clark, Jr. Third Edition by I. Maurice Wormser, of the New York Bar, and Professor of Law, Fordham University Law School. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Company, 1916; pp. xiii, 913.

When the first edition of this work was published in 1897, the reviewer used it as a text-book in his classes in Private Corporations, when the text-book method of instruction was in general use among law schools. This book was then found to be exceptionally valuable for such purpose, for the time that could then be given to the subject. The work still has the same valuable qualities for that purpose, or for individual reading or review.

Professor Wormser's modifications seem to have been done carefully, and accurately bring the text down to the date of publication. It will be found to be a handy manual for office use, but of course cannot take the place of the large work of Cook, Thompson, and others.

The Hornbook form of heavy black-face type analysis of the subject matter treated in subsequent paragraphs is retained. The citations of the cases printed in Professor Wormser's Collection of Cases on Private Corporations, are printed in small capitals so that this text and those cases can be readily used together. Perhaps similar treatment of other collections of cases would, sometimes at least, have been a convenience to the reader and students. This, however, is a business question for the publisher. The table of contents, and index, make it easy to find what is in the volume.

HORACE L. WILGUS.